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EASTERN

F.O.
371

1948

PALESTINE

FILE No.2.....

pp 870 - 1405

68515

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74

E

E 870

21 JAN 1948

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E870/2/31

Embassy

Rome

15

13 Jan

21 -

Jewish Illegal Emigration from Italy

Copy of Note to Council from Franco Franchi,
Min. Foreign Affairs, of 31 Dec from his V.
Minist. asking co-operation in the prevention
of Jewish Illegal Emigrant traffic
from Italy

Last Paper.

820

References.

68515

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

to Legation. CO
Enclosed. Cal off

Jan 22 on 820

(Action
completed.)

L.P. 24/1

(Index)

24/1/4

Next Paper.

877

(Minutes.)

Copy Co

Cabin. office

usual names

Italian Section

JB Jan 21

27/1

L.P. N.A. Rome tel 241026 20/1

JB Jan 30

L.P. N.A. Rome 241022 24/1

- - 281205 29/1

JB Jan 31

L.P. Campal tel 290615 29/1

C.C. Med tel 301701 30/1

- N.A. Rome 311153 31/1

- Campal 311757 31/1

- - 011700 1/2

- - 011221 1/2

JB Feb 3

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JD Feb 6

-	C.C. Med	101207	10/2
-	Council	101730	10/2

13 Feb 12

1. P.P. Sampal	111230	1/2
"	112112	1/2
" P'stamp tel	348	1/2

19 Feb. 16

9. P.P. N.A. home ltr 01/12/20 1/3

by mail. 4

7. P.P. C. C MED G/ 011647 1/4
- NA. Romi G/ 011231 1/4

19 Apr 5

J. P. P. C.C. MED 661 041007 4/4
~ N.A. ROMK 031137 3/4
~ C.C. MED 031907 2/4

10 April 6

J. P. P. N. A. ROMK tel 051147 5/4

19 Apr. 9

0
1.1.1 N.A. Home tel 271701 8/4

JB Apr-13

J. R. Campbell 121548 12/4
" " 122184 12/4

Jo Anne

J. P. Campbell 130922 13/4

JB Apr. 15

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E 1870

21

British... Embassy,.....

Rome.

13th January, 19348.

Reference to previous correspondence :

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<p>Note to Comm. Francesco Fransoni, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rome.</p> <p>31.12.47.</p>	<p>Jewish illegal emigration.</p>

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COPY

325/308/47

31st December, 1947

I spoke on a recent occasion to Count Sforza about the increased activity which has lately been apparent on the part of the organisers of Jewish illegal emigration from Italy, and referred to the continued importance which my government attached to prevention of this traffic. At the Minister's suggestion, I am now writing to summarise the points made in our conversation.

2. In the last six weeks since Mr. Bevin mentioned this subject to Count Sforza in London about one thousand Jews are known to have succeeded in reaching Palestine illegally from Italy, and a large number of ships suspected of complicity in such traffic have been reported in Italian waters. These ships, which have been making use of Italian ports, are most probably waiting for favourable opportunities of embarking emigrants clandestinely, and there seems therefore to be a likelihood of considerable further attempts of this sort in the near future. Another disturbing factor is that Zienist organisers are believed to be trying to smuggle arms from this country to Palestine, and some of the ships in question are therefore probably intended to be used for this purpose.

3. In the circumstances I felt bound to express my hope that the Italian Government would in certain respects intensify the measures which are being taken to frustrate these activities. I recalled that suspect ships, whose names are regularly communicated under existing arrangements to your Ministry, have nevertheless been able to ply constantly between various Italian ports, and that, thought they are kept under observation, little obstacle seemed to have been placed in the way of their movement. In certain cases it appeared that warning of these ships' identity had only reached Italian port authorities after some delay. Moreover, it was noteworthy that several such ships flew the Italian flag, which as your Ministry had previously made clear, would have made them all the more amenable to measures of control by the Italian authorities.

4. I also drew the Minister's attention to the fact that these ships were owned in many cases by Italians who have been notoriously engaged in organising the illegal transport of Jews. Full details of the activities of these ship-owners would be given to the Italian Government, and I ventured to suggest that some sanctions should be considered against this large-scale organisation of illegal activity in Italian territory. I mentioned particularly the name of one Stefano d'Andria, regarding whom I can give you details of what we suspect.

5. I feel sure that there is no need for me to stress the damage which further illegal immigration, not to mention the smuggling of arms, would be liable to cause to the troubled situation in Palestine in the coming critical months there. This danger was referred to in a debate in the House of Commons on the 12th December by Mr. Bevin, who

Comm. Francesco Fransonì,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
ROME.

/made

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1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific information required.

[illegible]

1. The purpose of this document is to provide information regarding the proposed changes to the [illegible] and to seek public input on these changes. The proposed changes are intended to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the [illegible] and to ensure that the [illegible] is able to meet the needs of the community. The proposed changes include [illegible] and [illegible]. The purpose of this document is to provide information regarding the proposed changes to the [illegible] and to seek public input on these changes. The proposed changes are intended to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the [illegible] and to ensure that the [illegible] is able to meet the needs of the community. The proposed changes include [illegible] and [illegible].

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IN

pr.

P.W.

P.W.

P.W.

P.W.

P.W.

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P.W.

P.W.

- P.W.

P.W.

P.W.

P.W.

P.W.

IN⁵

INDEXED

28J

DATE

870 2 71

U. S. Rome

30 JUN 70

From.

Date, 29. 1. 48.

Recd. 1235.

N.S.C. (O.T.P.)

Addressed. C. in C. Mediterranean.
Info. Admiralty for D.N.I. N.O.I.C. Port Said.

IMMEDIATE.

My 241022 not to Port Said, Naval Reporting
Officer Naples reported 2 Vessels off Gaeta January 28th
evening corresponding with description of 40 and 294.

2. Reported movements of Jews by road confirms suspicion the embarkation of this area imminent.

3. Embassy has taken action.

281205.

Advance Copy Sent. D.N.I. D.C. M. Br.

1st Lord.	D.C. (2)
1st S.L. (3)	M. (8)
V.C.N.S.	D.N.I. (5)
A.C.N.S.	D. of P. {Q} (2)
U.S.S.	D. of P. {2}
O.D. (8)	C.N.I. (2)

41/E.C.

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SECRET

pw IN⁶

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(*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad 241022/January "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

Date: 24.1.48.

FROM: Naval Attache Rome.

Recd: 1256

Naval Shore Cypher OTP

ADDRESSED: C. in C. Med.
Info: Admiralty

IMMEDIATE.

INDEXED
2870 2 31 30 JAN 1948

My 171230/ Number 40 was seen under way in Gulf Spezia at 1300 on 22nd repetition 22nd. Grade B 2.

241022

Advance Copy Sent D.C. R.C. at 1400

1st Lord.
1st S.L.(3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
C.D.(8)
D.C.(2)
M.(8)
D.N.I.(5)
D.of P.(2)
D.of P.(Q)
O.N.I.(2)

/No. 40 probably leave Porto Venere Saturday night.

mlc.27

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INDEXED

870 / 2 / 21

-3 FEB 1948

011221B/February.

Date. 1-2-48.

Recd. 1210.

From, Compal.

GENERATEX BY W/T

To. C. in C. Med.
Info. Admiralty, N.L.O. Milpal, S.O.I.L.E.M., PHOEBE, CHILDERS, D.L. F.O.D.

IMMEDIATE

Arrest of illegal SIIBIA STARITA effected 1159/1st February off Cape Carmel and inside territorial waters.

2. No resistance or sabotage, ship now entering Haifa under her own power.

3. My 311757 January refers.

011221B.

Advance copy sent D.C. & R.C.

1st Lord.
1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (Q) (2)
C.N.I. (2)

41.
D.B.

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INDEXED

870

2

31

011700B/Feb.

From COMRAL

3 FEB 48

Date 1. 2.48.
Received 1701

INTERSERVICE GENERAL

Addressed C. in C. Med.,
Info. Admiralty, M.L.O. MILP.L, S.C.I.L.E.M.,
PHOEBE, C.S.I., S.E.F.O.M.E.

IMPORTANT.

280 IJI transferred to transport EMPIRE RIVAL
and sailed for Cyprus escorted by WHITESAND BAY.

2. My 011221 February refers.

3. Transfer from illegal to transport took place
across after part of PHOEBE and occupied less than
two hours.

4. The procedure is simple and successful notwithstanding
that the operation was carried out in very boisterous
weather which complicated movement and berthing of
all ships.

5. PHOEBE has since returning to anchorage.

011700B

Advance copies sent D.C., R.C.

1st.Lord.
1st.S.L.(3)
V.C.M.S.
A.C.M.S.
U.S.S.
O.D.(8)
D.C.(2)
M.(8)
D.M.I.(5)
D.of P.(2)
D.of P.(2)
C.N.I.(2)

41/EK

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INDEXED

870 2 31

311757P/January.

From Compal

Date 31.1.48.

Recd. 2201.

GENERALEX

Addressed C. in C. Med.

Info. Admiralty N.L.O. Milpal S.O.L.E.I./PHOEBE CHEVIOT
CHILDERS CHAPLET D.1. F.O.D. C.S. 2 R.N.O.C. P.

IMMEDIATE

Illegal without ensign and bearing name boards ~~LEP~~
OF ZION intercepted by CHILDERS at 1100H 31st January in
approximate position 33 50 North 34 00 East after coming on DT
aircraft.

2. True name obliterated but still visible as SYLVIA
STARTITA OF MAPLES.

3. Vessel much overplayed part of innocent declining all
communication for more than three hours. Now proceeding
towards Haifa at three knots with two hundred on deck.

311757B

?S.O.I.L.E.M.
Advance copies sent D.C. and R.C.

1st Lord
1st Sea Lord (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (Q)
R.C.
C.N.I. (2)

E.D.
27.

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(*NOTE : Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad :
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

INDEXED

E 870 / 2 / 21

311153 January

Date 31.1.48

Rec'd. 1950

From Naval Attache Rome

-3 FEB 1948

NAVAL SHORE CODE OTP

Addressed C in C Mod.
info Admiralty

IMMEDIATE

My 281205. Ship suspected Number 294 left Gaeta morning 28th bound Naples but not yet arrived. Grade A1 no confirmation of embarkation or identity.

2. Ship suspected Number 40 with name painted out was still at Gaeta at 2300 on 30th. Convey of 10 lorries arrived Gaeta at 2140 on 30th.

3. Situation complicated by fact suspected ship now appears assume name and destination of genuine trader known to be moving at the same time as their own intended departure.

4. Your 291110 not to Admiralty also refers.

311153

Advance copy sent D.C., R.C.

1st Lord
1st S L (3)
V C N S
A C N S
U S S
O D (3)
D C (2)
M (8)
D N I (5)
D of P (2)
D of P (Q)
C N I (2)

JCK
32

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301701/January.

Recd. 1817.

N.S. CY. O.T.P. CORRECTION

IMPORTANT.

301701.

1st Lord.	M. (8)
1st S.L. (3)	D.N.I. (5)
V.C.N.S.	D. of P. { 2 }
A.C.N.S.	D. of P. { 0 } (2)
U.S.S.	C.N.I. (2)
O.D. (8)	
D.C. (2)	

47/E.C.

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870 2 31

Date. 29. 1. 48.

- 2 FEB 1946

Recd. 0610.

GENERAL

IMPORTANT.

290615B.

1st Lord.
1st S.L. (3)
W.C.H.S.
A.C.H.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (6)
D.H.I. (5)

D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (2) (2)
C.I.I. (2)

47/E.C.

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"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

2. 21

INDEXED

Date 2.2.48

Recd. 1239

NAVAL SHORE CYFHER OTP

IMMEDIATE

021201

Advance copy sent D.C., D.N.I.

AS 32

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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

This document must be paraphrased if the communication of its contents to any person outside Government service is authorised.

Cypher

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 2nd February, 1948.

R. 3rd " " 00.15 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 267 Confidential.

Addressed to S. of S.

Repeated to U.K. Delegation, No. 280, (Washington please pass).

" Rome, No. 281.

" Cyprus, No. 15.

" COMJEW, No. 18. (Gov. Cyprus please pass).

At 12.40 hours on 1st February, an illegal immigrant ship named HEROES OF ZION was brought into Haifa with 280 illegal immigrants aboard. The ship, which had earlier been boarded by the Royal Navy, is a schooner of 144 gross tons, originally named SYLVIA STAR (3 letter omitted) registered at Naples. The immigrant males 179; females 89; children 12 were transferred to the EMPIRE REVAL which sailed for Cyprus at 11.45 hours. There were no incidents during boarding and transhipment operations.

Copies sent to:-

Cabinet Offices

" "

Ministry of Defence

" " (J.I.S.)

Treasury

"

Admiralty

"

"

War Office

"

" " (M.O.L.)

"

Ministry of Transport

"

Air Ministry

"

Foreign Office

"

"

M.I.5

Foreign Office

"

- Mr. S.E.V. Luke
- Brig. Cornwall-Jones
- Lt. Col. Sherman
- Mr. A.J. Newling
- Major Gabbett
- Mr. D.F.C. Elant
- Mr. W. Russell-Edmonds
- Mr. P.W.H. Synnott
- Capt. Maunsell
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- Mr. B.F. Pickett
- Mr. F.C. Rennie
- Air Commodore Brook
- Group Capt. V.H.B. Roth
- Mr. B.A.B. Burrows
- Mr. H. Feeley
- Mr. J.G.S. Balch
- Mr. J.C. Robertson
- P.S. to Sir Cuno Sargent
- P.S. to Foreign Secretary

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From C. in C. Med. "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.) 101207/February

870 2 21

SECRET

Number 293 arrived Genoa 6th February on return from successful voyage with 190 Illegals.

101207

M.F.G
2

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pw. E

870 2 31

101730B/February.

Date 10.2.48.

Reed. 1750.

From COMPA.

GENERALLEX

Addressed C. in C. Med.
Info. Admiralty, N.L.O. MILP.L. S.O.I.L.E.M.
PHOEBE, CHEVIOT, D.L. F.O.D. C.S.I.
R.N.O. C.P.

IMMEDIATE

Illegal intercepted by CHEVIOT at 1540 10th
February in approximate position 32 degs. 28 mins. North
33 degs. 42 mins. East after homing on by aircraft.

2. Vessel is similar to S.O.I.L.E.M. number 40 with
minor departures. Name is painted out.

3. Zionist flags broken out and decks now crowded.
Total figure estimated at 400.

4. Ship proceeding towards Haifa.

101730B

Advance copies sent D.C. - R.C.

1st Lord,
1st S.I.(3).
V.C.N.S.
A.C.H.S.
U.S.S.
O.D.(8).
D.C.(2).
M.(8).
D.N.I.(5).
D. of P.(2).
D. of P.(Q).(2).
C.N.I.(2).

1042

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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 11th February, 1948.
E. 11th " " 20.55 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 348

Addressed to S. of S.
Repeated Governor Cyprus No. 20.
" H.M. Ambassador Rome No. 361.

At 13.00 hours today a ship named "JERUSALEM THE BESIEGED" was brought by Royal Navy into Haifa Harbour with 680 Jewish illegal immigrants on board. 404 males, 213 females and 61 children were transferred to OCEAN VIGOUR for Cyprus, 1 female and 1 male were transferred to hospital. Operation was completed by 16.05 hours. There were no untoward incidents. Vessel is thought to have sailed from Italy.

Copies sent to :-

Cabinet Offices

" " Ministry of Defence (J.I.S.)

Treasury

Admiralty

"

"

War Office

" (M.O.4.)

Ministry of Transport

"

Air Ministry

Foreign Office

"

"

M.I.5.

Foreign Office

"

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- Captain Maunsell
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- Mr. G.C.B. Dodds
- Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton
- Brig. L.L. Wansbrough-Jones
- Lt. Col. M.M. Charteris
- Major C. de B. de Lisle
- Mr. B.F. Picknett
- Mr. F.C. Rennie
- Air Commodore Brook
- Grp. Capt. V.H.B. Roth
- Mr. B.A.B. Burrows
- Mr. H. Bealey
- Mr. J.G.S. Beith
- Mr. J.C. Robertson
- P. S. to Sir Orme Sargent
- P.S. to Foreign Secretary

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P.W.

870 2 31

14 FEB 1948

112112B/February.

From, Compa 1.

Date, 11-2-48.

Recd. 2334.

INTERSERVICE GENERAL BY W/T

To. C. in C. Med.
Info. Admiralty, N.L.O. Milpal, S.O.I.L.E.M., PHOEBE, C.S.1.,
S.B.N.O.M.E.

IMPORTANT

678 I.J.I. transferred to transport OCEAN VIGOUR and sailed for Cyprus escorted by CHEVIOT and later PHOEBE.

2. My 111230B. February refers.

3. Transfer from illegal across PHOEBE to transport occupied less than two hours. This is my 111809B re-encrypted.

112112B.

Advance copy sent D.C. & R.C.

1st Lord.
1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (C) (2)
C.N.I. (2)

40
D.B.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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68515

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IN

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111230B/February
are excepted from this rule

870 2 21

Date: 1.2.48

Recd: 1212

GENERAL INDEX

1992

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- 5855

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1st Lord
1st S.I. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)

L.N.I. (5)
D. of F. (2)
L. of F. (2)
C.N.I. (2)

IN²⁰

INDEXED

011120/March.

Date: 1.3.48.

Recd: 1429

N. Cypher OTP

Addressed: C. in C. Med.
Info: Admiralty

IMMEDIATE

Unconfirmed report 200 Jews embarked Rome Area
night Thursday 26th in small craft. Grade C 3.

011120.

Advance copy O.D.
D.N.I.
D.C.
M.

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (Q)
C.N.I. (2)

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E

From C. in C. Med.

Date 1.4.48

Recd. 2147

~~SECRET~~

To: N.L.O. Port Said for S.O.I.L.E.M.
Info: Admiralty D.N.I. Compal

INDEXED

Compal's 301050B March. Reporting officers report as follows.

- (A) Venice. Vessel not called this year and nothing known about her.
- (B) Genoa. Last sailed Genoa 20th January bound Naples empty. Genoa agents Grassi and Anastasio also agents for 293.

011647A

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. {8}
D.C. {2}
M. (2)
D.N.I. (5)
F. of P. {2}
D. of P. {2}
C.N.I. (2)

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SECRET

22
IN
pw.
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(*NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad :
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

From N.A. Rome.

870 2 71

011231 /April INDEXED

Date 1.4.48

Recd. 1410

N.S.C. O.T.P. (1169).

To C. in C. Med. Admiralty. N.O.I.C. Port Said. for S.O.(I).L.E.W.

IMMEDIATE

Single Masted Italian Motor Schooner VIVARA of 446 G.T.
Grey wooden hull with white band. Bridge funnel and Deck
House aft. Wooden structure and railing forward.

(2). Having completed conversion for Illegal Immigration capacity
700 passengers sailed from Naples at 2000 hours on 30th March,
ostensibly for San Antioco Sardinia. Grade A1.

(3). Thought to intend embarking at Formia but may proceed
Split or Kotor instead. Grade B 3.

011231

Advance copies sent D.C. D.N.I.

1st Lord.
1st Sea Lord. (3).
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
C.D. (8).
D.C. (2).
M. (8).
D.R.I. (5).
D. of P. (2).
D. of P. (Q).
C.N.I. (2).

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SECRET

IN²³

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(*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad:
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

INDEXED

870 2

041007A/April.

From, C. in C. Med.

Date, 4-4-48.

Recd. 1151.

N.S.C. (O.T.P.)

To, N.A. Rome.
Info. Admiralty, D.N.I., N.L.O. Port Said.

IMPORTANT

R.O. Bari reports a schooner left Formia for Palestine on 31st March with persons on board. Can you confirm. Your 011231 may refer.

041007A.

Advance copy sent D.C.

1st Lord.
1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (Q)
C.N.I. (2)

41
D.B.

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Recd. 1341

INDEXED

IMMEDIATE

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870 2 21

Date 3.4.48

SECRET

To Naval Attahce Rome, Admiralty.

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031 907A

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (3)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (2)
C.N.I. (2)

IN

hw 26

870 2 31

Date: 5.4.48.

Recd. 1202.

NAVAL SHORE CODE (10-10-10)

Post Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE.

051147.

KN5

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p.w.
E.

870 2 31

Date: 8.4.48

From: N. A. Romo.

Recd: 2035

N. S. Cypher O.T.P. (1169)

To: C. in C. Med.
Info: Admiralty, N.L.O. Port Said.

Your 041007. Enquiry made but no confirmation.
Coast favours SECLUSION.

071701

1st Lord
1st S.L. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
C.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (Q.)
C.N.I. (2)

✓ R.O. Bari reports schooner
left Formia for Palestine.

GFG
15

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28
IN

* (NOTE : Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

840 2 21

Date 12.4.48.

Recd. 2133.

IMMEDIATE.

4. My 121548B April refers.

1st Lord.
1st Sea Lord. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)
D.N.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)

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pw.
E

870 2 71

121548B/April INDEXED

From Compal

Date 12.4.48.

Recd. 1617.

GENERALEX

Addressed C: in C. Sec (A)
Info. C. in C. Sec (H) Admiralty N.L.C. Milpal S.O.I.L.E.M.
NEWCASTLE VIRAGO C.S. 1 F.O.D.

IMMEDIATE.

Illegal intercepted by VIRAGO at 1510B 12th April
in approximate position 33 degrees 05 minutes North 34 degrees
15 minutes East after sighting by aircraft.

2. VIRAGO reports ship almost certainly S.O.I.L.E.M.
number 323.

3. Ship now proceeding Haifa Zionist Flag hoisted.

121548B

Advance copy sent D.C.

1st Lord.
1st Sea Lord. (3)
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)
D.N.F. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (Q) (2)
C.N.I. (2)

E.D.
22

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IN 30

***(NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad ("O.T.P.") are excepted from this rule.)**

870 2 21

are excepted

Date: 13.4.48.

114
INDEXED

I.S.G.

To: C. in C. Med.
Info: Admiralty., N.L.O.Milpal., S.O.I.L.E.M.,
S.B.N.O.M.E., F.2.

Identity of illegal boarded and arrested 12th April
now established as Vivara port of Registry Torre Del Greco.

2. My 122134/April not to S.B.N.O.M.E., refers.

130922B

Arrest of illegal effected
2125B/12th April in Haifa Bay.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.M.S.
A.C.N.S.
U.S.S.
O.D. (8)
D.C. (2)
M. (8)
D.F.I. (5)
D. of P. (2)
D. of P. (Q) (2)
C.N.I. (2).

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75

RB

1948

E

31

E 377

21 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

E877/2/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

W. Farrell
Bucharest

Dated

86

Received

in Registry

20 Jan

21 -

Fewest Illegal Immigrants Romania.
 R/p 7051 65 (E 47/2/31) It is clear that
 immigrant who left Romania are not provided
 with regular passport but names figured on eight
 collection lists prepared by the Fewest Immigration
 officers together with Immigration Branch of Romanian
 Red Cross. There is a Romanian Regi. a Romanian
 authorized to grant visas.

Last Paper.

870

References.

(Minutes.)

See E661 & action

JB Jan 22

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

 8, 9.9.P
 Jan 21st
(Action
completed.)

P.P. 2/

(Index.)

 2/6
 24/1/48

Next Paper.

906

30471 F.O.P

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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5

6

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CYPHER/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sarell.
No. 86.

D: 5.00 p.m. 20th January, 1948.

20th January, 1948.

R: 6.44 p.m. 20th January, 1948.

Repeated to: Budapest,
Panama,
Sofia,
Cyprus,
Jerusalem.

IMPORTANT

CONFIDENTIAL

21 JAN 1948

Addressed to the Foreign Office telegram No. 86 of
20th January repeated to Budapest, Panama, Sofia, Cyprus
and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 36.

Jewish illegal immigration.

From information obtained locally, it is clear that
immigrants who left here were not provided with regular
passports but names figured on eight collective lists
prepared by the Jewish Emigration Office together with the
Emigration Branch of the Roumanian Red Cross.

2. There is no Panamanian representative in Roumania
authorised to grant visas.

3. It would have taken two immigration officers working
without halt day and night five days to check the passports
at the Roumanian frontier and again at Bourgas had these
immigrants possessed valid documents. They left Roumania
and apparently embarked at Bourgas without any delay at all.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram
No. 4 and to Panama and Cyprus as my telegrams unnumbered.

[Repeated to Panama. Copies sent to Telegraph Section,
Colonial Office, for repetition to Jerusalem and Cyprus].

300

21 JAN 1948

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1	2	3	4	5	6

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E 900

33

1948

PALESTINE

22 JAN 1948

Registry
Number
FROM

E906/2/31

No.

J.L. Mayall

Dated

Cairo

Received
in Registry

244/1/48

14 Jan
22

S.S. LHS TAMPLAS

Refer para to 2375 (E1224/48/5) following
order promise of Egyptian M.Y. that instructions
were being given to deny facilities to this vessel.
Summerhayes reported that fueling permit had
been granted. Vessel was however unable to sail as
Summerhayes had previously arranged with local agent
a licence to refuse to ship supplies to Japan
who remained coal supplied to ship. Order that
the vessel be not made in London.

Last Paper.

877

References.

11/1/48
J.L. Mayall

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Rennie, M.Y. Transport
Higham. C.O.

Presented Cab Off
Sherman

8, Robertson, M.Y. Feb 13
M.Y. Mayall,
Cairo

from M.Y. Beith

Feb 10

(Action
completed.)

1/1/48
J.L. Mayall

(Index. P. 70)

24/1/48
J.L. Mayall

Next Paper.

908

(Minutes.)

Copy M.Y. Transport } usual
C.O. names
Cab. Offices

By. Feb. 4th

JB Jan 22

M.Y. Rennie, M.Y. Transport, is
acting on para. 4 and
expressing our appreciation.

Draft to Cairo

JB Feb. 7

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8, Mission E 1835
Feb 13

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/JMK

244/1/48.

E 300

22 JAN 1948

BRITISH EMBASSY,
CAIRO.

14th January, 1948.

Dear Bernard,

Please refer to our telegram No. 2375 of 24th December about the S.S. Las Tamplas.

Following the verbal promise of the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, that necessary instructions were being given to deny facilities to this vessel, we wrote to Summerhayes at Alexandria and asked him to confirm that the customs had, in fact, refused clearance to this vessel.

Summerhayes reported that the Egyptians had on the contrary granted the fuelling permit and had not withdrawn it. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs later informed us that they had had to give this permit to Las Tamplas, though reluctantly, because there had been a court order to this effect.*

The vessel has been unable to sail however as Summerhayes had previously arranged with the coaling companies in Alexandria to refuse to supply this ship with coal. Mr. Savon, who is in charge of the biggest coaling company in Alexandria, and who was good enough to take off coal which he had previously supplied in all innocence, has asked us to ensure that his action is supported also in London, where his principals Messrs Moxay Savon and Company, of 24 St. Mary Axe, E.C. 3., have apparently found it hard to explain matters to British insurance groups who have covered the ship, and even to the Ministry of Fuel by whose permit the coal is brought here. Would you please put this right for him?

Meanwhile Chapman-Andrews is going to take the matter up with the Permanent Under Secretary at the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Yours ever

Les Hayall

B.A.B. Burrows Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

* Summerhayes now reports that according to the Director-General of Customs, the fuelling permit had been given on the strength of legal advice, but not as a result of any legal action.

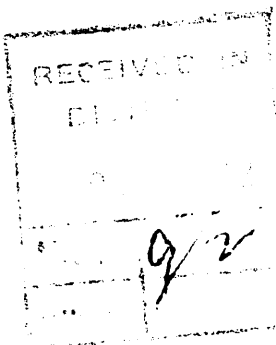
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Registry
No. E906/2/31.

J.C.S.
Draft.

Mr. Mayall
CAIRO.

From: Mr. Beith.



Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Open

Your letter 244/1/48 of January 14th
about the S.S. "Las Tamas".

We are asking the competent department
to explain Mr. Savona's action to his
principals and we are indeed much indebted
to him for his helpfulness, a point we
shall not fail to make. Meanwhile you
should know that the London Agent for the
notorious shipowner Pandel is called at the
Foreign Office about this ship, and was
referred to the Shipping Panel of the
Palestine Committee. Mr. Secretan was
told by the Panel that if he took over
complete control of this ship by means
of a bare-boat charter we would re-consider
our attitude. Pending such action we
should have to continue our unfavourable
attitude but not otherwise. You
should therefore continue to
delay the ship as far as
possible unless we send
you further instructions.

As Rev. 7

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

36

FOREIGN OFFICE, S. A. I.

(E 906/2/31)

10th February, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Lees

Your letter 244/1/48 of the 14th January about the s.s. "Las Tamplas".

We are asking the competent department to explain Mr. Savon's action to his principals and we are indeed much indebted to him for his helpfulness at a point we shall not fail to make. Meanwhile you should know that the London Agent for the notorious shipowner Pandelis called at the Foreign Office about this ship, and was referred to the Shipping Panel of the Palestine Committee. Mr. Secretan was told by the Panel that if he took over complete control of this ship by means of a bare-boat charter we would re-consider our attitude but not otherwise. You should therefore continue to delay the ship as far as possible unless we send you further instructions.

ack J.C.S. Beith)

A. L. Mayall, Esq.,
Cairo.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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77

E

E 908 37

1948

22 JAN 1948

Registry
Number E908/2/31
FROM
Clanery
No. Buchanan
Dated 9/1/48
Received
in Registry 14 Jan
22

Denish Affairs Romania.
After 4th (E908/4/31) the discussions
that took place between the Communists, the
Denish and the A.S.D.C. about the
organization of the departure of "refugees" from
Romania took place by land and sea.
"Refugees" have now taken over boats,
and the discussions have therefore moved aboards.

Last Paper.

906

(Minutes.)

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Copies. Chancery:-
W. Jan
Moscow.
Jan 28

Very interesting. It seems that
the "Pans" were fired with
the last out from behind the
Iron Curtain - not with
Communists

Copy Washington / Chancery
Moscow

N. Dept.
S. Dept. 7/2

John Baird
Jan 22

I have you: my own impression
from other pp. (Eastern, so far as I
remember) was that there was fairly
good evidence of Communist infiltration,
and that the "Pans" had sailed not
with "refugees" but with "agents." Certainly
Moscow seems to find Zionism a useful
counter in Palestine itself. But I suppose
it would not be impossible for them to
be killing two birds with one stone.

CRANE
3/2
PVO

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

E951

26513 F.O.P.

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JAB Sumner
9.2

midnight

10 2.

for Sir O. Sargent.

12/2/48.

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1		2			

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E 308

91/1/48.

22 JAN 1948

British Legation,
Bucharest.

14th January, 1948.

Dear Department,

Your (E.11765/48/41) of 18th December
about Jewish affairs.

The discussions that took place between
the Communist Party Central Committee, the Zionists and
the A.J.D.C. dealt with the organisation of the departure
of "surplus Jews" from Roumania both by land and sea.

As Kendall's report mentioned, the Commun-
ist Party was anxious to rid the country of a mass of Jews
who will never be good communists. The Zionists were even
more anxious to remove as many Jews from Roumania beyond
the "curtain" before it was too late.

The departure of 12,000 Jews by the PAN
CRESCENT and PAN YORK was the first important result of
the discussions. The mass migration of Jews from Roumania
to Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Austria was studied and
better organised.

The curtain rang down, however, earlier
than anybody expected. The Communists took over the
Ministries of Foreign Affairs, War and Finance, and closely
following these changes the Western frontier closed almost
overnight. It is now widely believed locally that a
census is due for the 25th of this month and will be the
immediate forerunner of forced labour camps for "the sur-
plus population", including any Jews; and that industrial
and private property is to be confiscated. The Russians
appear no longer interested in maintaining their truce with
the Zionists in Roumania.

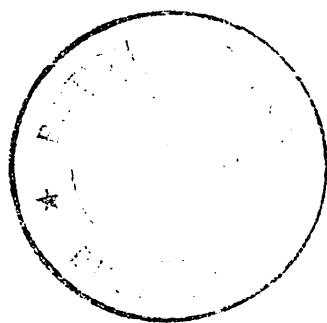
The Chief Rabbi Safian has fled the
country and there is ample evidence that those who carried
the Zionist movement into the Communist camp in Roumania
are now themselves being denounced as "international
agents". Dog has begun to eat dog.

The discussions held in Bucharest in
October and November have therefore proved abortive.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
LONDON. S.M.



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<p>28</p> <p>E 940 12 14 31/6</p> <p>Marseilles</p> <p>Y</p> <p>Dated 22 Jan</p>		<p>Palestine</p> <p>4451000</p>	<p>E 940 / G</p> <p>39</p>
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E 956</p> <p>References.</p>		<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>Copy 11 P. x</p> <p>attach previous pp.</p> <p>✓ JB Jan 23</p> <p>the French are beginning to</p> <p>let us down again, now that</p> <p>the efforts of the "President</p> <p>Warfield" have worn off</p> <p>Western Dept. 30/1, 30/1, 30/1</p> <p>JB Jan 28</p>	
<p>(Print)</p>			
<p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>8) n P ✓ 26 Jan</p>			
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>20/1</p>		<p>(Index.)</p> <p>14/1</p>	
<p>Next Paper.</p>			

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Eq 40

DIPLOMATIC

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE

D. 2.30. p.m. 22nd January 1948.
R. 3.55. p.m. 22nd January 1948.

R. 3.55. p.m. 22nd January 1948.

R. 3.55. p.m. 22nd January 1948.

R. 3.55. p.m. 22nd January 1948.

R. 3.55. p.m. 22nd January 1948.

R. 3.55. p.m. 22nd January 1948.

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E 552

41

PALESTINE

23 JAN 1948

Registry
Number
FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E992/2/31

Legation,

Panama

13 Jan
23 ~

Illegal Passenger Ship.
 Refers to tel. no. 13 Jan. Transmitted copy
 of note no. 11/176/48 to the Foreign Relations
 of 13 Jan. It being that SS. ATLANTA and
 SS. EXPLORER should be added to that of the
ATLANTA with a view to the withdrawal of
Panamaian Registry.

Last Paper.

978

References.

(Minutes.)

10 Jan 23

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

J.C.M. 24/

(Index.)

28/4/48

Next Paper.

993

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42

E 952

23 JAN 1948

..13th January, 1948

456/

am No. 6 dated 13-1.

Enclosure.

Subject.

Jewish illegal
immigration.

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URGENT
Q/176/48

BRITISH LEGATION,
PALAMA.
13th January 1948

43

My dear Mr. de Diego,

Since I saw you this morning, I have received a further telegram from the Foreign Office asking that the names of the s.s. "ATALETA" and s.s. "CYPRUS" should be added to that of the "EBEL" with a view to the withdrawal of Panamanian registration.

The "ATALETA" is operated by the "American League for a Free Palestine", an organization pledged to support the Jewish terrorists. The "CYPRUS" sailed from Ponta Delgada for Genoa on 12th December and small arms were reported on board.

I should point out to Your Excellency that the present situation is extremely serious. Cyprus now has only accommodation for some 8,000 refugees whereas the combined capacity of these two ships and the "EBEL" is 14,000 people. The arrival of any of these ships in Palestine might well lead to disastrous consequences.

Believe me,
My dear Mr. de Diego,

Yours very sincerely,

(Sgd.) J.D. GREENWAY.

Your Excellency
Mr. Mario de Diego,
Minister for Foreign Relations,
L.A.S.A., ...

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1948

E 9931

PALESTINE

23 JAN '48

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E993/2/31.

Leningrad
Sofia
~~with Sofia~~

27/14/48

17500

23 -

Illegal Immigration Bulgaria.
Re Sofia tel 67 (E661/2/31) transmits copy
of proposed draft of protest to the Bulgarian
Govt. This is inadequate as it is to
include a paragraph to cover the various
questions in Sofia tel 63 (E587/2/3)

Last Paper.

992

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Tel. sent on this.

Re attach PM.

JB tan 26

See E661/2/31 & action

✓
S. Dept. 29/1 JB tan 28

Note published in accordance
with Sofia tel No. 161 of 2 Feb (E 1637/2/31)
on 6 Feb for publication in morning
papers of 7th Feb. Substance also
carried in L.F. Information programme
on 6th Feb with embargo.

Shouster
(P. 100000) 3/2

JB E h. 13

(Action
completed.)

9/2/48

(Index.)

10/2/48

Next Paper.

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E 45
British Legation,
Sofia,
17th January 1948.

27/14/48.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Southern Department, E 11/11/23 JAN 1948

Our telegram No. 67 about illegal immigration into Palestine.

2. As we have not yet received approval for the general line of the proposed protest to the Bulgarian Government, we enclose a copy of the draft as it stands at present in case you want to see the exact text. The draft is, of course, incomplete, as we hope to include a paragraph to cover the answers to the questions in our telegram No. 63.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.
S. 11/11/23

Southern Department,
Foreign Office.

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46

~~Sofia.~~

~~15th~~ January, 1948.

The contents of Your Excellency's note No. 12156-37-1 of January 10th were at once conveyed to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs from whom I have now received instructions to protest strongly on behalf of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom against the recent attempts at illegal immigration into Palestine which have been made from Bulgarian ports.

2. Your Excellency's note states that the emigrants who embarked at Burgas in the "Pan Crescent" and the "Pan York" were duly authorised by the Bulgarian authorities to cross Bulgaria in transit for this purpose, since they held "regular passports for their emigration to Panama" which the Bulgarian Government had neither reason nor interest to question.

3. I feel sure that Your Excellency, in making this remarkable statement cannot have been personally aware either of the previous cases of the "Paducah" and the "Northlands" or of the repeated warnings given to the Bulgarian Government about the intended use of the "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York" in the illegal immigration traffic to Palestine.

4. As long ago as August 20th 1947 this Legation began to invite the cooperation of the Bulgarian Government in preventing the use of Bulgarian ports for this traffic. The invitation was conveyed in "Note Verbale No. 159 in relation to the approach to the Black Sea of the vessel "Paducah" which duly arrived at Varna on August 22nd and later went to Bourgas.

5. A similar invitation was contained in the Legation's Note Verbale No. 180 of September 13th in regard to the impending arrival of the "Northlands". By September 24th this vessel had joined the "Paducah" at Bourgas.

6. Meanwhile in its Note Verbale No. 41289-20-II of September 2nd the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed the Legation that adequate measures had been immediately taken to prohibit the embarkation on, or disembarkation from, the "Paducah": and when the Legation heard that a considerable number of would-be Jewish immigrants had left Bucharest for a Bulgarian port they at once brought this information to the knowledge of the Bulgarian Government in their Note Verbale No. 193, of September 24th, in which they asked for an assurance in regard to the "Northlands" similar to that which they had been happy to receive in the case of the "Paducah".

17. This

His Excellency,
M. Vassil Kolarov,
Vice President of the Council of Ministers,
and Minister for Foreign Affairs,
SOFIA.

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7. This time, however, no such assurance was forthcoming. On the contrary, in spite of the assurance of September 2nd, both the "Paducah" and the "Northlands" left Bulgarian waters on or about September 27th laden with Jewish passengers. The Bulgarian authorities sought to justify their failure to prevent this by oral explanations to the effect that the passengers claimed to be proceeding to destinations other than Palestine and that their papers were in order for this purpose. No reply has ever been received from the Ministry to the Legation's enquiry regarding the country or countries for which the Jews in question had valid visas.

8. The hollowness of the above claim and the falsity of any papers which may have been produced in support of it were quickly demonstrated by the fact that the "Paducah" and the "Northlands" proceeded direct from Bulgaria to Palestine. On arrival in Palestinian waters the "Paducah" was found to be carrying 1385 would-be illegal immigrants and the "Northlands" 2264. It was established that these persons had entered Bulgaria by train. Most of them had embarked at Bourgas and the remainder at Varna.

9. These facts were brought to the notice of Your Excellency's predecessor in my letter of October 17th.

10. Meanwhile I had already in my Notes Verbales No. 227 of October 1st and No. 257 of October 11th warned the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the possibility that further attempts to embark at Bulgarian ports would-be illegal immigrants for Palestine were likely to be made by the "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York". In these written communications and in conversation with Your Excellency's predecessor on October 2nd and October 15th I drew attention to the grave situation in Palestine and to the complications which these attempts at illegal immigration were likely to cause and I once more asked for the co-operation of the Bulgarian Government. In my letter of October 17th I reminded Monsieur Kimon Georgiev of the suspected activities of the "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York" and on the specific instructions of His Majesty's Government I impressed upon His Excellency the particular importance which His Majesty's Government attached to preventing the departure of these two vessels with illegal immigrants for Palestine. While giving an assurance that none of the intended passengers could possibly be in possession of a valid permit to enter Palestine, I asked that special steps should be taken to investigate the genuineness and validity of any documents or visas which might purport to indicate that the ships or the passengers were proceeding to a destination other than Palestine.

11. In our oral discussions regarding the "Paducah" and the "Northlands" Monsieur Kimon Georgiev represented to me the difficulty which the Bulgarian Government might have in making such investigations in the case of emigrants who claimed to be proceeding to countries with which Bulgaria had no direct diplomatic relations. I should like therefore to place on record that I promptly offered the services of His Majesty's Government as an intermediary for any enquiries of this nature which the Bulgarian Government might wish to make.

12. In a letter of December 24th I communicated to Your
/Excellency

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48

Excellency reports which had just reached me that the "Pan Crescent" and the "Pan York" had left Constantza on December 22nd and December 23rd respectively and that a considerable number of Jews desiring to enter Palestine were, or had recently been in course of transit by road or rail from Roumania to Bulgarian ports. I again specifically made it clear that none of these Jews could possibly be in possession of a valid permit to enter Palestine and I urged that any claim that they were being transhipped to any other destination ought to be the subject to most searching investigation in view of the wide ramifications of the illegal immigration traffic.

13. Confirmation that the "Pan Crescent" and the "Pan York" had arrived at Bourgas was speedily forthcoming and I so informed Your Excellency in my letter of December 27th in which I communicated a report that on December 25th as many as 12,000 would-be illegal immigrants into Palestine were passing in transit from Roumania to Bulgarian ports by train.

14. It has since been established that the two ships left Bourgas on December 27th and like the "Paducah" and the "Northlands" proceeded direct towards Palestine. They were intercepted by British Naval vessels as they were about to enter Palestinian waters.

15. It may be of interest to Your Excellency to learn that in view of the proved utilisation of these vessels in the illicit immigration traffic the Panamanian Government have informed His Majesty's Government of their decision not to renew the provisional patents of Panamanian registration which had been granted to the two vessels and which in fact expired on October 25th in the case of the "Pan York" and on November 5th in the case of the "Pan Crescent".

16. In face of all the facts, warnings and requests for cooperation recapitulated in the present Note it will be apparent that the Bulgarian Government cannot fairly claim that they had no reason to question the genuine nature of any travel document proffered by persons endeavouring to embark in the "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York". Whether or not the Bulgarian Government consider themselves to have any interest in doing so is a question of the ethical standards which they may decide to adopt. But to disclaim such interest is to assume a heavy international responsibility.

17. Your Excellency's letter of January 10th expresses surprise that the action of the Bulgarian Government in this matter should be considered as an infringement of the United Nations Charter. So far as I am aware it has not yet been so described. What my letter of December 27th said was that the illegal immigration traffic on the scale planned in the "Pan Crescent" and the "Pan York" was particularly reprehensible at a moment when the United Nations had made their recommendations for the future of Palestine and negotiations for the transfer of authority were about to begin. In the view of His Majesty's Government this is an incontestable statement.

18. While they may have occasion to deal separately with the remarks in Your Excellency's note of January 10th

/about

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about the non-admission of Bulgaria into the United Nations, they decline to be drawn into an irrelevant discussion of that subject in the present connection.

19. The serious position in Palestine and the steps taken by the United Nations to solve the Palestine problem have been so widely reported and are so much matters of public knowledge that the Bulgarian Government, irrespective of their non-membership of the United Nations, must be presumed to be fully aware of the serious complications likely to be caused by illegal immigration during the critical period through which the country has recently been, and still is, passing. They have in any case been left in no doubt on the point of this Legation.

20. It is therefore a matter of great regret to His Majesty's Government that the Bulgarian Government should hitherto have turned a deaf ear to the representations made to them. They are reluctant to draw the conclusion that the Bulgarian Government while aspiring to membership of the United Nations, are yet deliberately conniving at illegal immigration into Palestine. But if this is not the case, they trust that the Bulgarian Government, realising that in the four cases of the "Paducah", the "Northlands", the "Pan Crescent" and the "Pan York" they have been duped by the unscrupulous promoters of an illicit traffic, will take active steps to prevent the further despatch from Bulgarian territory and ports of persons who may be endeavouring to enter Palestine illegally.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my high consideration.

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E 995

1948

PALESTINE

23 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 995/2/21

J. Robinson

E 995/2/21

22/1/48.

12 Jan

23 -

100,000 Tons to Poland.

Learn from Harry Velland that R. Stole
Dept is very preoccupied by President Truman's
announcement that 100,000 Tons should migrate
to Poland.

Think this refers to his utterance of
1946,

Last Paper.

993

(Minutes.)

References.

N. American ^{April 21/}
S. " ^{✓ JCP 2/2}

H.B. 237

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

J. L. M. 2/2

(Index.)

22/1/48

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(Ref.222.1.48)

British Embassy,
CARACAS.
12th January, 1948.

E 55

23 JAN 1948

Dear Department,

I learn, through a mutual relative, from Harry Villara, who is Head of the Bureau of the State Department which looks after the United States interest in Palestine and Greece, that the State Department is "very preoccupied" by President Truman's pronouncement that 100,000 Jews should migrate to Palestine.

Whether the President has made a new pronouncement, or whether the reference is to the utterance of 1946, I do not know, as I have seen no mention of a new statement in the press here.

State Department anxiety on this topic is hardly news, but I pass the information along for what it may be worth. I am sending a copy of this letter to the Embassy in Washington.

Yours ever,

Joseph Robinson

Joseph Robinson.

North American Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>31 1948</p> <p>E1010 12/23/48</p> <p>Washington 349</p> <p>Dated 23 Jan</p> </div> <div> <p>Palestine</p> <p>Illegal immigration</p> </div> <div> <p>E1010 /G</p> <p>52</p> </div> </div>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E948</p> <p>References.</p> <p>E658/2/9</p> <p>(Print.)</p> <p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>8)11P</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>Copies 11P</p> <p>this is good. We must hope that State Dept. will hold on for another month or two, in which case we shall be all right.</p> <p>NA left.</p> <p>20/1.</p> <p>JB Jan 24</p>
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>2F 20/1</p> <p>(Index.)</p> <p>left.</p> <p>Next Paper.</p>	

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL

53

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel, D. 7.57 p.m. 22nd January, 1948
N o. 349
23rd January, 1948. R. 2.00 a.m. 22nd January, 1948.

Repeated Saving to (Jerusalem,
(The Hague,
(Panama,
(New York (Consul General)

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 349 of 22nd
January, 1948 repeated Saving to Jerusalem, The Hague,
Panama and Consul General New York.

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 697. Jewish illegal immigration.

Whole question, together with points made in your telegram under reference, has been submitted to Mr. Lovett, as a result of which it has been decided that the Colonel F.C. Johnson should continue to be held and that Derecktor should be informed that, in order to satisfy State Department, he must sign charter party giving full control over ships operations to firm of undoubted integrity (your telegram No. 12200 of 1947 paragraph 2(a)).

2. Derecktor has threatened legal proceedings against United States Maritime Commission and this question has been remitted to the Legal Divisions of the State Department and Maritime Commission for advice as to whether grounds for action would lie. While present decision is satisfactory, we must be prepared for possibility that State Department may feel bound to reconsider the matter should legal advice indicate that departments concerned are on weak ground.

Foreign Office please repeat to The Hague Saving as my telegram No. 1.

[Repeated Saving to The Hague]

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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2 1065

26 JAN 1948

Dear Department,

26 JAN 1948

26 JAN 1948

26 JAN 1948

26 JAN 1948

26 JAN 1948

26 JAN 1948

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<p>32</p>		<p>Palestine</p>	<p>E1076 /G 56</p>
<p>E1076 12/15/51</p> <p>Sofia</p> <p>29</p> <p>Dated 15 Jan</p>		<p>Illegal Jewish immigration</p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E1075</p> <p>References.</p> <p>E584/2/C</p>		<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>Southern Dept. 27</p> <p>UN (Pol.) Dept</p> <p>JB Jan 27</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>			
<p>(How disposed of.)</p>			
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>25/3/51</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p>14/4</p>		
<p>Next Paper.</p>			

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Bulgaria.

Description of Enclosure.

Subject.

Illegal Jewish
Immigration.

U. K. Delegation. New York. No.1.

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1948

PALESTINE

26 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry25 Jan
26

... 1948 ...
 ... 11/15/48 ...
 ... 11/15/48 ...
 ... 11/15/48 ...
 ... 11/15/48 ...
 ... 11/15/48 ...

Last Paper.

1076

References.

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(How disposed of.)

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 (on E1093)
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 Jan 27

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completed.)

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88 16/2

88 16/2

Next Paper.

1093

(Minutes.)

Copy Co. (McHigham)
 for obs.

7/30/48
 Northern
 Southern } Depts.

By Feb. 1st don't
 (for reminder to Feb. 3
 Co.)

By Feb. 15
 Feb. 16

JB Jan 26

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E 1090 60
[This telegram is of particular secrecy ~~26~~ should ~~34~~
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Cypher/OTP

DIPLOMATIC

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sarell D.6.6 p.m. 24th January, 1948.
No.93
23rd January, 1948. R.7.2 p.m. 24th January, 1948.
Repeated to Jerusalem 120
Sofia
Washington
Moscow

SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.93 of January 23rd,
repeated to Jerusalem, Washington, Sofia and Moscow.

Your telegram No.76.

Communist agents on Pan York and Pan Crescent.

All bodies mentioned in paragraph (b) of your telegram
are militant Communist organisations.

2. I should be grateful for names and descriptions of
any non-Jews who sailed by these ships.

3. Organisation mentioned in paragraph (f) is not a
Roumanian one and appears to be a Soviet one.

Foreign Office please repeat to Jerusalem, Washington,
and Moscow as my telegrams Nos.6, 21, 16 respectively.

[Repeated to Washington, Moscow and copies sent to
Telegraph Section Colonial Office for retransmission to
Jerusalem.]

B B B

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E

E 1093 61

1948

PALESTINE

26 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

E 1093/2/31

TELEGRAM FROM

S. V. Mott

No.

Rome

Dated

11 Jan 48

Received

in Registry

21 Jan

26 -

9th Jan 1948. 11.45. 11.45.
 Received telegram from Rome
 Embassy advised that the Italian
 Government had decided to
 suspend shipping in the Red Sea
 and to the coast of the
 Arabian Sea. This decision was
 reported by the dispatch on 25 of 13 Jan
 E 1093/2/31

Last Paper.

1090

References.

(Minutes.)

Western Dept.
 S. V. Mott
 20/1

H. C. Beir
 Jan 27
 L. V. M.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 19.1 Jan 27

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

L. V. Mott 31/1

22/1/48
 22/1/48

Next Paper.

1097

30471 F.O.P

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26 JAN 1948
DEPARTMENTAL

Sir V. Mallet
No: 11 Saving

h. 2.30.p.m.24th January 1948

4. Count Soardi was obviously more interested in

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in the arms question than in that of illegal emigration, but produced in reply the customary Italian arguments, e.g., the lack of police forces, the ample funds available to Jews for bribing local officials and to paying fines inflicted for breaches of shipping regulations, the absence of legal means of detaining ships indefinitely. He said that for example the Italian authorities knew at the moment of a cache of arms in a certain Jewish camp, but had so far been unable to concentrate enough police on the spot to make a raid. The Italian Government were cooperating within their legal powers to detain suspect ships, but they could not accept protests at their inability to do more. The "strongest possible instructions" had, however, been sent to Genoa to investigate the activities of the three ships mentioned in your telegram No: 76. The results of enquiry into the case of the Rondine were awaited.

5. Our representatives pointed out that, given goodwill by the authorities, there were numerous administrative dodges which could be used to detain ships for longer periods on suspicion, e.g., the "President Warfield". Opportunity was also taken to deliver a memorandum (copy by bag) prepared by our experts, as suggested in Eastern Department's letter No: E11308/48/C, about the organisation of the Jewish traffic in Italy and personalities and firms involved in it. The Italian representatives were told that we had previously hesitated to produce material incriminating Italian citizens, but we considered the present serious situation justified it. If some action could be taken at least to refrain these persons, an effective blow might be struck against the organisation.

6. The Vice-Director accepted the document with good grace, and promised to see what could be done. He was obviously sceptical however, of the success of any attack on such a powerful organisation, and doubted if any legal or other action, which could be taken against the organisers, would achieve more than a momentary interference with their plans.

A:X:X:

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E109Y /G
64

Palestine

33

E109Y 12/31/6

Panama

10

Dates 23 Jan

Jewish immigration

Last Paper.

E10Y6

References.

E 6560/84/31

E4821/84/31

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Rome 27
Genoa 6

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

25/29/1

Next Paper.

(Minutes.)

1. Genoa 4

23 Jan

Panama No. 10 repeated

to Rome & Genoa

NA Dept.

JB Jan 27

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1097

65

Mr. Greenway

D. 3. 49 p.m. 23rd January, 1948.

No. 10

23rd January, 1948.

R. 11. 53 p.m. 23rd January, 1948.

IMPORTANT
CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 15.

Jewish immigration.

I saw the First Secretary and legal adviser to the Ministry this morning. The position is that provisional registration of the Medina is valid until March 28th 1948. Patent on registration was issued on December 20th 1947 but has not yet been forwarded and will be retained here for the present.

Telegraphic instructions were sent by the Ministry to the Panamanian Consul last month to detain the Medina and report. He replied she had sailed for Genoa and similar instructions were immediately telegraphed to the Panamanian Consul there who has not yet reported. I stressed the critical situation of the Cyprus camps and other arguments including special plea for stirring up the Government commission which is examining the question. Unfortunately one member is Carlos Icaza (see Mr. Baxter's letter to Ellison of June 26th 1947 E 4, 821/84/31 and Ellison's reply of July 10th) who is not only disgruntled by our refusal to apologise to him but is also lawyer for the owners of the Medina. Another and most influential member of the commission is Joel Medina (sic). He is a Jew and not very helpful. But I feel there is now a different atmosphere in the Ministry itself about this question and that they want to help though delays are inevitable owing to their inefficient and incompetent [go undec] system. I think too they can probable [sic] control Medina (the man)

[Copy sent to M.A. Secretariat]

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66

DEPARTMENTAL

His Majesty's Consul General D. 5.40 p.m. 23rd January
1948

R.11.15 p.m. 23rd January

1948

Your telegram No. 5. —

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

CCC

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Piece... 68.5.15...

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under Section 3 (4) of the
Public Records Act, 1958

E1098 / 2 / 316
E1152 / 2 / 31

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Cypher/OTP

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM BUDAPEST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

68

Mr. Helm
No. 62

D.11.25 a.m. 27th January, 1948.
R.12.45 p.m. 27th January, 1948.

26th January, 1948.

Repeated to Bucharest
Panama
Sofia
Cyprus
Jerusalem

E 1167

(28 JAN 1948)

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 62 of
January 26th repeated to Bucharest, Panama, Sofia, Cyprus
and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 65 to Bucharest: Jewish illegal
immigration.

Ministry of the Interior state that only twelve
Hungarian passports valid for Panama have been issued in
the last six months. Under-Secretary also said there had
been no large scale movement of Jews from Hungary as
police had been keeping special watch for illegal emigrants.
He added there was practically no forging of passports or
identity documents going on in Hungary.

2. There is no Panamanian representative in Hungary.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs state that in 1947 a
Mr. Laszlo Leutsch presented a letter from Panamanian
Government appointing him Consul but Hungarian Government
in the absence of notification from Panamanian Government
refused to recognise appointment. He has not been given
exequatur and does not perform Consular functions.

3. Visas have originated in Hungary but I should
be interested to receive any contrary information that
may become available.

Foreign Office please repeat to Panama, Cyprus and
Jerusalem as my telegrams nos. unnumbered, unnumbered
and 2 respectively.

[Repeated to Panama.]

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office
for repetition to Cyprus and Jerusalem.]

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28 JAN 1948

Cypher/OTP

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM BUDAPEST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

68

Mr. Helm
No. 62

D.11.25 a.m. 27th January, 1948.
R.12.45 p.m. 27th January, 1948.

26th January, 1948.

Repeated to Bucharest
Panama
Sofia
Cyprus
Jerusalem

E 1167

28 JAN 1948

CONFIDENTIAL

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been no large scale movement of Jews from Hungary as
police had been keeping special watch for illegal emigrants.
He added there was practically no forging of passports or
identity documents going on in Hungary.

2. There is no Panamanian representative in Hungary.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs state that in 1947 a
Mr. Laszlo Deutsch presented a letter from Panamanian
Government appointing him Consul but Hungarian Government
in the absence of notification from Panamanian Government
refused to recognise appointment. He has not been given
exequatur and does not perform Consular functions.

3. Visas have originated in Hungary but I should
be interested to receive any contrary information that
may become available.

Foreign Office please repeat to Panama, Cyprus and
Jerusalem as my telegrams nos. unnumbered, unnumbered
and 2 respectively.

[Repeated to Panama.]

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office
for repetition to Cyprus and Jerusalem.]

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28 JAN 1948

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E 1177 69

1948

PALESTINE

28 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E1177/2/31

Embassy

Athens

18

19 Jan

28

Illegal Jewish Immigration from France
 Enclosed copy of report from Mr. Gerhold
 dated 11 Jan concerning the possibility of
 certain Greek Jews now housed in the TRAKONAS
 Jewish Refugee Camp immigrating illegally
 into Palestine.

Last Paper.

1171

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

Southern Dept.
 29.1.

Very!

The Greeks have been
 very helpful on the whole.

JB Jan 28

(Action
completed.)

(Index)

28/1
 28/1

28/1
 28/1

Next Paper.

1178

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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SECRET

No. 18

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Athens
presents his compliments to HEPSS, for FA
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

British Embassy.....

Athens.....

E 1777

18 JAN 1948
10th January 1948

Reference to previous correspondence:

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.

Subject.

Report from Mr. Gerhold
dated 16th January 1948

Illegal Jewish Immigration
from Greece

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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SECRET.

Gen/102/10.

Mr. H. Gerhold,

British Embassy,

Athens.

16th January, 1948.

S.I.M.E., G.H.Q., M.E.L.F. (2 copies).

D. S. O., PALESTINE.

SCILEM, Navy House, PORT SAID.

D. S. O., CYPRUS.

Head of Chancery,
British Embassy, Athens. (2 copies).

Illegal Jewish Immigration from Greece.

I attach a copy of the translation of a letter addressed to me by M. PELLIS, the Minister of Public Order, on the 31st January 1946, concerning the possibility of certain Greek Jews now housed in the TSANONAS Jewish refugee camp immigrating illegally to PALESTINE.

Would D.S.O. PALESTINE kindly inform COMPAL.

H. Gerhold
(H. Gerhold).

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Ministry of Public Order,
Aliens Directorate.

Reg. No. 100/3/282/7.

Athens, 8.1.48.

To:- Mr. H. Gerhold,
British Embassy,
Athens.

Jewish Illegal Immigration.

We have the honour to inform you that, according to a report of the Aliens Centre, Athens, 50 of the Jewish inmates of TSAKONAS camp have sent a telegram to the Jewish authorities in Palestine declaring that they are ready at any moment to travel to Palestine in order to support their struggling brothers against the Arabs.

As we have already advised you on previous occasions, all the Jewish inmates of TSAKONAS Camp are Greek subjects and, in accordance with the Greek laws, there is no provision for restrictive measures such as the guarding of the camp by a Police force, etc., and, being given that clandestine immigration is done by vessels from deserted spots of the vast Greek coastline, the guarding of which is difficult if not impossible, especially in the present circumstances when the Gendarmerie forces are busy in the struggle against the bandits, it becomes very difficult for the Police and Port authorities charged with the execution of the relative law to prevent the illegal immigration of Jews for Palestine.

In any case, we immediately passed the above information to the Ministry of Mercantile Marine and the competent Police authorities as you will see from the copy of my order attached, so that they may take all measures necessary for the surveillance of the coast and the control of all vessels sailing for the Aegean islands in order to discover and arrest any Jews attempting to immigrate illegally and to proceed with their indictment in accordance with the law.

In this connection, we would request you to advise the British Naval authorities with the object of their taking steps for the control of vessels sailing towards Palestine.

We shall keep you posted with any further information on the subject.

The Minister,

K. RENTIS.

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Ministry of Public Order,
Aliens Directorate.

Reg.No. 100/3/282/4.

URGENT. SECRET.

Athens, 7.1.48.

To:- Ministry of Mercantile Marine,
Maritime Police Directorate,
Athens.

We have the honour to inform you that 30 Jews of those sheltered in the ISAKONAS Estate Camp (Patissia terminus) have sent a telegram to the Jewish authorities in Palestine declaring their readiness to travel at any moment to Palestine in order to reinforce the fight of their Jewish brothers against the Arabs.

In view of the possibility of these Jews attempting to sail in the near future clandestinely, we would request you to issue the necessary orders to the Port authorities under your command so that they may take measures to place under the closest surveillance those parts of the coast from which sailings may be effected towards the Aegean islands, and of all vessels in order to discover and arrest any Jews attempting to immigrate illegally for Palestine, and to take legal action against them.

The Gendarmerie and Police Services to whom the present is communicated, are requested to take the necessary measures in co-operation with the Port authorities, in order to frustrate any attempts of such illegal immigration.

The Minister,
K. RENTIS.

DISTRIBUTION:

Security Directorate, M. of Public Order.
Royal Gendarmerie and Police H.Q.

Gendarmerie High Commands: Cent. Greece.
Aegean Islands,
Dodecanese.
Crete.
Peloponnese.

General Aliens Centre for Macedonia and Thrace.

Aliens Centres:- Athens,
Piraeus.
Continental Greece.
Dodecanese.
Epirus.

Police Directorates: Athens.
Piraeus.
Patras.
Corfu.

General Security Sub-Command:- Athens.
Piraeus.

Gendarmerie Commands :- Athens.
Piraeus.
Kifissia.
Euboea.
Cyclades Islands.

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E 1570

74

JAN 1948

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E1178/2/31

Embassy

Paris

23 Jan

28 -

GIOVANNI MARIA

Rpt 40470 (E12277/54/21) of Jan 3.
Copy of letter to My Foreign Office of
Jan 22. in my personal of submitted of
Jan 6. 70470. I am going to send Giovanni Maria
for further French investigation.

Last Paper.

1177

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

18/6 2/2

(Index.)

18/6 2/2

Next Paper.

1261

(Minutes.)

The first French paper since
the President was fired - but
none the less a but one
Western Dept. 11/27. JB Jan 28

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23rd January 1948.

E 1170

28 JAN 1948

Ref; Eastern Dept's letter
E 12277/84/31 'Confidential'
of 3rd January 1948.

*With the Compliments
of His Majesty's Embassy.*

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

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15/35/48

British Embassy,

Paris

22nd January 1948.

In our note No. 12 (15/13/47) of 6th January we informed you that, so far as we were aware, the illegal immigrant ship "Giovanni Maria" which arrived off Haifa with 688 Jews on board on 6th December 1946, had picked up her passengers in Corsica. Since that time various documents taken from the passengers have been examined and the immigrants who are now in Cyprus have been interrogated. From these examinations it appears that a majority of the immigrants in fact boarded the "Giovanni Maria" at or near Marseilles.

2. The largest party of immigrants were of Hungarian or Eastern European origin and had travelled to France from Sweden on the S.S. Kastelholm (mentioned in your note C.A.3. of 15th January) on 20th July 1947. This party remained dispersed round Paris or Marseilles until about 20th November, when they were taken to staging points near Marseilles for vetting. Camp Arenes at Marsague was filled up and some were housed at 24 rue des Convalescents in Marseilles itself. A second party of immigrants of Roumanian origin joined the contingent having come from Landsberg and reached Marseilles by train on 1st November. A third and smaller party of North African origin who came to France in July or August of this year were assembled in the Chateau de Sanderval, la Madraque, which is being used as a kindergarten.

3. From the evidence we have been able to collect it appears that the "Giovanni Maria" left Leghorn on about 6th December, called at Ajaccio and finally on about 12th December, embarked most of her 688 passengers in a perfectly normal manner by a gangplank from a dockside at or near Marseilles.

4. This is an old story now, but you will no doubt wish to have the above facts so that it can be thoroughly investigated. I confess that we find it very difficult to understand how so large a group of illegal immigrants could have been assembled and embarked from Marseilles without attracting the attention of the local authorities. Moreover, these immigrants arrived in France by sea, in a group, from Stockholm, and the difficulty of controlling their subsequent movements in France surely cannot therefore be compared with that of controlling refugees who infiltrate across the frontier; especially since this group appear to have arrived from Stockholm with valid French visas.

J. E. Coulson.

Monsieur J. F. P. Chevillote,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
P A R I S .

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REPUBLICUE FRANCAISE

Paris, le 15 janvier 1948.

No. C.A.3.

Les autorités françaises compétentes sont priées d'effectuer une enquête dont les résultats seront communiqués à l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique aussitôt qu'ils parviendront au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères./.

A PARIS

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E 1535 78

70 JAN 1948

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

Last Paper.

1261

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Y. G. G. P.

Jan 30th

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

1357

[illegible]

(Minutes.)

Southern [✓] Gov 3/2
Sept.

JB Jan 3.

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CYPHER/CTP

E 153

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30 JAN 1948

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sarell.
No. 115.

D: 8.39 a.m. 29th January, 1948.

28th January, 1948.

R: 9.28 a.m. 29th January, 1948.

Repeated to: Jerusalem,
Angora,
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Malta,
B.M.E.O. Cairo,
Washington,
Athens.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 115 of January 28th
repeated to Jerusalem, Angora, Commander-in-Chief Malta,
B.M.E.O. Cairo, Washington, Athens.

CONFIDENTIAL

[? Grp.ontd.] 169.

Illegal Jewish immigration.

Jewish buyers are endeavouring to purchase motor sailing
vessel Meropi, built at Galatz for D. Djavon[grp.undec.?nils].
[Grp.undec.? Greek] flag. The price asked is 100,000 dollars.

2. This vessel is built of wood, 42 metres long, beam 7
metres. She is of 308 tons nett tonnage and is powered by
deisel motors M.A.N. of 300 h.p. Her speed [grp.undec.] about
8 knots.

3. Jewish buyers intend to build 450 bunks and to ship about
500 illegal immigrants when the vessel is ready for sea.

Foreign Office pass to Jerusalem, Angora, Commander-in-Chief
Mediterranean Malta, B.M.E.O. Cairo, Washington, Athens as my
telegrams Nos. 7, 3, 3, 3, 24, 7 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora, B.M.E.O., Washington, and Athens and
copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for
repetition to Jerusalem and to War Registry Admiralty
for repetition to Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Malta].

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30 JAN 1948

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

Minutes.

Mr. Wright
Eastern Dept.

The Minister of Defence showed to the Secretary of State this morning a copy of F.O. telegram No.263 to New York, in which the suggestion had been made at the official level that we might hand back to the Jews the two ships recently confiscated for carrying illegal emigrants.

They were both strongly opposed to handing these ships back, and I was instructed to see that a message was sent to the Colonial Office putting this view strongly. I understand that Mr. Beeley, to whom I spoke, is taking the necessary action.

I afterwards spoke to the Secretary of State, explaining that it had never been intended to hand these ships back until the termination of the Mandate, and then only in order that we should not ourselves have the responsibility of sending the Jews to Palestine from Cyprus. The Secretary of State still felt opposed to handing the ships back on the grounds (1) that they had been properly confiscated and should be kept, if only as a punishment; and (2) that we could not trust the Jews once we had handed the ships back to use them for the purposes intended, and not to send them off at once to fetch emigrants from other places, leaving Cyprus emigrants on our hands.

24th January, 1948.

This minute from Mr. Roberts crossed my own minute below, written after consultation with the Colonial Office. Mr. Roberts does not consider that the latter is a complete answer to

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Minutes.

the former, and thinks th 5/5 will
wish to know the Colonial Secretary's
views. I think the quickest way of obtaining
these would be by direct communication
between the Private Offices.

H. Beeley 20/11

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

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82

SECRET.

Mr. Roberts.

Disposal of Pan Crescent and Pan York.

I understand that the Minister of Defence drew attention this morning to our telegram No. 263 to New York (copy attached), and that the Secretary of State instructed us to ask the Colonial Office for an explanation of the statement that H.M. Government would be willing to release from detention the Pan Crescent and the Pan York.

I am informed by the Colonial Office that these two ships have not been confiscated, but are under temporary detention in Cyprus. They will have to be released sometime, and we are quite unable to make use of them ourselves before their release because they are detained under Cyprus legislation which is not valid outside territorial waters.

The Secretary of State has told the House of Commons that we wish to empty the Cyprus camps before the 1st August. This means that the detained immigrants must be taken to Palestine between the 15th May and the 1st August. We wish, if possible, to avoid transporting them in British ships and to make the Jewish Agency responsible for the operation. The High Commissioner has reported that the Jewish Agency assured him that they would be prepared to use the Pan Crescent and Pan York for this purpose.

It is for these reasons that Sir A. Cadogan has been authorized to inform the United Nations Commission that H.M. Government would be willing to release the two ships on or after the 15th May.

H. E. L. L.

(H. Beeley)

24th January, 1948.

Robertson

24.1

not

25.1

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FO

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68515

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OUTWARD TELEGRAM

83

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP
Secret.

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 263. D: 10.40.p.m. January 19th. 1948.
January 19th. 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Washington No. 729.

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

GIANT

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation, New York,
telegram No. 263 of January 19th, repeated for information
to Jerusalem and Washington.

Your telegram No. 122. Paragraph 2.

Following for Trafford Smith from Martin, Colonial
Office.

1. Agree. It is not desirable to give information about mortgaging arrangements for children since we do not wish to have to admit that in fact we are mortgaging quotas beyond 15th May. No objection to saying that 750 certificates a month devoted to Cyprus half the remaining 750 (after deduction of small number for statutory requirements) devoted to parents and minor children of people now in Palestine, 25 each month to Displaced Persons in the French zone of Germany, 25 to Displaced Persons in the British zone of Austria, the balance to Displaced Persons in the British zone of Germany.

2. Foreign Office telegram No. 225 contains guidance on this point.

3. Agree.

4. Suggest that you reply that His Majesty's Government have already announced that they cannot have illegal immigrants on British territory after the military withdrawal, and that our delegation in New York are charged with negotiating with the United Nations Commission in order to see that this is arranged. You might add that His Majesty's Government will be willing to release from detention the two PAN ships now in Cyprus and that we understand the Jewish Agency would be willing to operate these ships for clearing the camps after 15th May.

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E

E 1358

84

1948

PALESTINE

31 JAN 1948

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 1358/2/21

61/8/21/48

10/1/48

1/1/48

1/1/48

1/1/48

received from New York
 Bureau of Information
 to New York - being that the Bureau
 received a copy of the New York
 file.

Last Paper.

1357

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Banks, Chanceries:

Paris

Bucharest

Sofia

Rome

Panama

Feb 5

(Action
completed.)

1/1/48

(Index.)

24/4/48

Next Paper.

1396

(Minutes.)

Copy Chanceries at:-

Paris

Bucharest

Sofia

Rome

Panama

etc.

Dwight
Crenshaw Dept.

JB Jan 31

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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FO

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Entered

28th January, 1948

E 155.

Documents found

I see that the
ships considerable

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26

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COPY

86

FROM....THE CAPTAIN (D), FIRST DESTROYER FLOTILLA, H.M.S.
CHEQUERS.
DATE....11th January, 1948 Ref. No. 6631/18/11
TO.....THE SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY, LONDON S.W.1.
THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, MEDITERRANEAN,
THE COMMODORE, PALESTINE, STELLA MARIS, HAIFA.
S.O. (I) L.E.M.

Subject. SHIP'S PAPERS - S.S. PAN YORK

With reference to my signal timed 092053, the following is a list of the ship's papers found in s.s. PAN YORK and now transferred to the detaining authority:-

Bills of health - Constanza
- Bourgas
- Canakkale (Transit)
A.B.S. Provisional load line certificate, and copy 13.5.47
A.B.S. (Panama) load line certificate. 25.6.47
A.B.S. Certificate of Classification for Hull
No. 26476. 26.1.42
A.B.S. Certificate of Classification of Machinery
No. 7059 26.1.42
A.B.S. Temporary Certificate for Radio dated
13.5.47 and attached correspondence
A.B.S. Report of load line inspection. 2.5.47
Deratization Certificate issued at Rouen. 21.9.47
Tonnage Certificate (Roumania). 20.12.47
Certificate of Life Saving capacity (Roumanian),
No. 9235.
Constanza with enclosure dated 19.12.47.
Roumanian Free Board Certificate No. 9235. 20.12.47
Exemption from deratization, Brest. 10.9.47
Clearance Certificate from Constanza. 21.12.47
Patente Provisional de Moreganian. No. 5 G.
issued in Genoa. 29.7.47
Armed Guard Unit, ss PAN YORK. Safety precautions
for all hands (typed sheets).
S.S. PAN YORK 12.12.46. ship's particulars
(one typed sheet).
Speed by Engine Revs. (One typed sheet)
One typed sheet containing Beaufort Wind Scale,
State of sea, Character of swell, Fog and
visibility scale and state of weather tables.

(Sgd.) R.D. WATSON

CAPTAIN (D)

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E 1396

1948

PALESTINE

2 FEB 1948

Registry
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

Last Paper.

135-8

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8991

Feb 3

g) Rome ~~125~~

10] Genoa to 15

Feb 4

Y. A. P.

8 Rahmberg M+5.

Higham P.O.

Mar 4

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

hb. 2148

41

Next Paper.

1397

(Minutes.)

Copy Rome & Crensa
refce.

13 Feb. 2

9. P.P. J.D. Greenaway, Panama 38/176/48 & M. Bick 20/2

Com

~~M-5~~

Usual names

Jul Mar 2

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Code R.

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM PANAMA TO FOREIGN OFFICE 2 FEB 1948

Mr. Greenway.
No. 15

D. 1.30 pm. 31st January, 1948.
R. 8.02 pm. 31st January, 1948.

31st January, 1948.

IMPORTANT

My telegram No. 10.

Jewish Immigration.

I saw the same official today to stir him up about the Medina. He said that the Panamanian Government were still awaiting full report from their Consul at Genoa adding that I could assure you that the ship would not be allowed to leave that port till fullest investigations were concluded.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

ppp

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38/176/48

Air Mail

Dear Beith,

My telegram No. 15, Jewish Immigration.

We keep nagging away at the Ministry about these ships but hitherto with no result. They say now that they have referred our complaint to the lawyers of the company who have promised to comment - but naturally fail to do so. Chiari, the official handling the case, would not commit himself too definitely in reply to hope expressed that the ships would not be allowed to sail pending a decision here: but I think on the whole we can count on it.

Unfortunately, both he and the Foreign Minister will be disappearing to Bogotá for the Conference in the near future. But I will try and get an assurance out of one of them that no prejudicial action will be taken during their absence.

Yours ever,

D. W. Greener

Mr. J.C.S. Beith,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

BRITISH LEGATION,
PANAMA.
25th February 1948

E/396/2/4

not write

E
89

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E

E 1397 96

2 FEB 1948

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

1E1397/2/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Le 10 Mars
Paris.

Dated

40

Received
in Registry

21 Jan
2 Feb

SS ~~WILL~~ and

• Mr. Boudreau has been informed that Wiggins will have applied to port authorities for berthing space for 15 deck cargo gear, yet 212th Feb. to embark 650 passengers for Venezuela and 2000 to 2000 tons of goods. Mr. Wiggins' officers have been asked to check the cargo files.

Last Paper.

1396

(Minutes.)

JB Feb. 2

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

~~8, 9.9.12~~
3 Feb.

(Action completed.)

1/2 1/2

(Index.)

24/11/48

Next Paper.

1405

30471 F.O.P

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and
should be retained by the authorised recipient
and not passed on].
Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL.

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE FEB 1948

Sir O. Harvey. D. 8.36 p.m. 31st January, 1948.
No. 90.

31st January, 1948. R. 9.24 p.m. 31st January, 1948.

IMPORTANT.

SECRET.

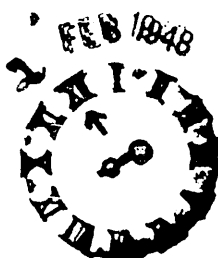
Jewish illegal immigration.

His Majesty's Consul Bordeaux has been
informed that Worms and Company, Bordeaux
have applied to port authorities for
berthing space for S.S. North Oina from
9th to 12th February to embark 650 passengers
for Venezuela and 2,000 to 3,000 tons of
goods.

2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs has
been asked to check her bona fides.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

333



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E 1405 92

7848

PALESTINE

2 FEB 1948

Registry
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E1405/2/31.

CPS Rock

Home Office

to W. Gable.

2 Feb

Extract of L. F. PERRY.
 Asks information re whether it has been
 decided that Mr Perry should terminate his
 mission and if so when he is likely to
 be released.

Last Paper.

1397

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Spt. CPS Knes.
 Home Office
 from W. Gable.
 3 Feb.

(Action
completed.)

L. F. PERRY 1/3/2

(Index)

1/3/2

Next Paper.

1409

(Minutes.)

Letter to H.O.

13 Feb 3

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2					

FO 371

68515

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Telegrams:—Passics, London.

Reply should be addressed to H.M. Chief
Inspector, Immigration Branch, Home
Office, the following reference quoted:—

IMMIGRATION BRANCH,
HOME OFFICE

Princeton House,
271, High Holborn,
London, W.C.1.

Your reference

J. E. Cable, Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office.

93
E 1001
2 FEB 1940

Dear Cable,

Would you be good enough to
let me know as early as possible whether it
has been decided that Mr. L. J. Perry
should terminate his mission and if so
when he is likely to be released.

Yours sincerely,

C. P. J. Ruck.

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3rd February, 1948.

Please refer to your letter (undated) to Cable, which was received here on February 2nd, asking when Perry could be released.

Yours sincerely,

C. P. J. Ruck, Esq.,
Immigration Branch,
HOME OFFICE.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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1		2			
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